

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY
WEST POINT, NEW YORK

10 October 1949.

Miss Patricia B. Butler,
Station Manager, WCSR,
Smith College,
Northampton, Mass.

My dear Miss Butler:

Your letter of October 6th on the activities of WCSR was referred to my attention and I have contacted the personnel who operate our program distribution system here at WPSH. No doubt you will hear from them in the near future.

Perhaps I should explain a little about the operation of WPSH at the United States Military Academy. In the first place, it is not a radio broadcast station. It is merely a very complex program distribution system installed and operated in the Station Hospital for the benefit of patients. Each bed is equipped with a pillow type speaker and in some wards we have the normally used permanent magnet distribution speakers installed. Programs vary from material distributed by the Armed Forces and related governmental public relations groups, and re-broadcast of all radio programs, of which the most popular are football games and the like. To date we have not provided a suitable studio for live entertainment. The personnel at this station are Civil Service personnel and not military. In other words, the cadets and other military personnel of the post do not engage in any activity of the station except my office, which handles all the engineering service for the system. We had, of course, looked into the possibility of getting a small 10-watt college type transmitter for program distribution but the possibility of this was somewhat difficult due to lack of official funds for expenditures of this type. If we had the time, we could build a very excellent station, but it is unfortunate that our program material could not compare to that available in the metropolitan area of New York City. Consequently, our main requirement is best filled by the present system of program distribution which we are able to pipe all over the post through an automatic telephone system which is operated by my office.

I have referred your letter to the office of the Commandant of Cadets where it will be directed to the Cadet Special Services Officer, who will no doubt contact the cadets on the programs committee handling such matters for the Corps. I believe that it is of interest to the Corps of Cadets more than it is to my office, since ours is merely an engineering responsibility and not one of entertainment.

I trust that the above information will be satisfactory for you to gather sufficient information on WPSH to answer any questions on it. I have taken the privilege of sending you the attached photographs which you might find of interest for display on your station bulletin board.

Cordially,

Winfield L. Martin
WINFIELD L. MARTIN,
Lt. Colonel, S. C.,
Signal Officer.

Encls.

